

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL



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REPORT

For
Week Ending
September 7, 1974

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
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EPIDEMIOLOGIC NOTES AND REPORTS
FOLLOW-UP ON TURKEY-ASSOCIATED PSITTACOSIS -
Missouri, Nebraska, Texas

Between May 6 and June 25, 1974, a total of 154 human cases of psittacosis (ornithosis) were tentatively diagnosed among 560 employees of 4 turkey processing plants in Missouri (1), Nebraska (1), and Texas (2). Subsequently, small outbreaks have been reported from 2 additional turkey processing plants in Texas. Epidemiologic data collected at the plants indicate that at least 111 persons were sick with a disease compatible with psittacosis; symptoms most frequently reported were fever, headache, weakness, chills, and weight loss. Of 229 employees bled in the kill and pick, evisceration, and packing departments in these 6 plants, 39 (17%) showed

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a 4-fold or greater rise in complement-fixation titer to the *Chlamydia* group antigen.

Attack rates by department, available from 3 of the plants, indicate that the kill and pick department and the evisceration department had the highest attack rates (Table

TABLE I. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES
(Cumulative totals include revised and delayed reports through previous weeks)

DISEASE	36th WEEK ENDING		MEDIAN 1969-1973	CUMULATIVE, FIRST 36 WEEKS		
	September 7, 1974	September 8, 1973		1974	1973	MEDIAN 1969-1973
Aseptic meningitis	69	183	183	1,929	2,872	2,872
Brucellosis	3	3	4	110	133	133
Chickenpox	217	164	—	99,369	144,896	—
Diphtheria	2	1	2	175	124	110
Encephalitis:						
Primary: Arthropod-borne and unspecified	34	44	40	643	974	953
Post-Infectious	4	7	3	193	215	239
Hepatitis, Viral:						
Type B	136	159	116	6,520	5,546	5,546
Type A	575	{ 881	{ 881	28,984	{ 34,850	{ 37,829
Type unspecified	95			5,721		
Malaria	7	3	37	146	161	1,932
Measles (rubeola)	114	71	122	19,798	24,143	26,845
Meningococcal infections, total:						
Civilian	8	12	19	961	1,047	1,758
Military	—	—	17	936	1,023	1,566
Mumps	176	308	364	44,258	55,151	67,742
Pertussis	34	—	—	1,133	—	—
Rubella (German measles)	108	87	204	9,760	25,923	38,365
Tetanus	2	—	3	60	60	77
Tuberculosis, new active	388	549	—	21,068	21,716	—
Tularemia	3	1	3	107	117	103
Typhoid fever	10	15	11	274	481	234
Typhus, tick-borne (Rky. Mt. spotted fever)	18	22	16	662	533	375
Venereal Diseases:						
Gonorrhea	15,467	15,820	—	609,923	561,167	—
Syphilis, primary and secondary	324	479	—	16,727	16,823	—
Rabies in animals	45	42	58	2,032	2,560	2,559

TABLE II. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OF LOW FREQUENCY

	Cum.		Cum.
Anthrax:	2	Poliomyelitis, total: N. Dak. 1, Va. 1	5
Botulism:	9	Paralytic: N. Dak. 1, Va. 1	5
Congenital rubella syndrome:	38	Psittacosis: * Ore. 2, Tex. 1	110
Leprosy:	73	Rabies in man:	—
Leptospirosis:	26	Trichinosis: *	68
Plague:	1	Typhus, murine: *	16

*Delayed reports: Psittacosis: Texas 4

Typhus, murine: Texas 1

PSITTACOSIS - Continued

1). Few cases were reported in workers involved with loading and transporting turkeys from farm to plant.

Turkeys originating in the east central Texas area have been implicated epidemiologically as a source of infection at all 6 plants. In the third week of July 1974, an ornithosis task force was established and operated jointly by the Texas Animal Health Commission and the U.S. Department of Agriculture with public health input from both the Texas State Health Department and CDC. Between July 15 and August 3, when the task force was terminated, animal health inspectors tested 152 turkey flocks containing 1,124,890 birds. A total of 14 flocks from 7 counties had serologic evidence of infection with *Chlamydia psittaci*. Infected flocks were quarantined and treated with chlortetracycline-medicated feed for 21 days before being slaughtered. Twelve of the 14 infected flocks were breeding birds; the other 2

flocks were meat birds. There have been no new human cases of psittacosis reported since the middle of July 1974. (Reported by A.B. Rich, D.V.M., Director, Veterinary Public Health, and M.S. Dickerson, M.D., State Epidemiologist, Texas State Department of Health; H.Q. Sibley, D.V.M., Executive Director, Texas Animal Health Commission; L.C. Grumbles, D.V.M., Chairman, Department of Microbiology, Texas A&M University, College Station, and Sammie E. Glass, D.V.M., Poultry Pathologist, Texas A&M Poultry Diagnostic Laboratory, Gonzales; John Walker, D.V.M., Senior Staff Veterinarian, Poultry Diseases, Veterinary Services, and Mike Pullen, D.V.M., Acting Chief, Toxicology and Epidemiology, Scientific Services, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA, Maryland; and the Veterinary Public Health Branch, Parasitic Diseases and Veterinary Public Health Division, Bureau of Epidemiology, CDC.)

Table 1
Psittacosis and Psittacosis-Like Disease Attack Rates by Department
for 3 Turkey Processing Plants, Texas, Nebraska, May-July 1974

Departments	Lampases, Texas			Waco, Texas			Gibbon, Nebr.			Total		
	No. Ill	No. Dept.	AR (%)	No. Ill	No. Dept.	AR (%)	No. Ill	No. Dept.	AR (%)	No. Ill	No. Dept.	AR (%)
Kill and Pick	1	16	6	7	23	30	2	9	22	10	48	21
Evisceration	11	52	21	27	76	36	10	34	29	48	162	30
Packing	4	48	8	6	86	7	1	25	4	11	159	7
Other	1	64	2	6	163	4	2	49	4	9	276	3

CURRENT TRENDS

SURVEILLANCE OF CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING - United States

Table 2 summarizes provisional results of screening in Childhood Lead Positioning Control Projects during the fourth quarter of FY 1974. Results of screening for the first 3 quarters of the fiscal year were summarized in July (MMWR, Vol. 23, No. 27). The 81,929 children screened in this quarter brings the total number of children screened in FY 1974 to 284,364. Approximately 19.4% of the estimated target group of 2.9 million children between the ages of 1 and 6 at risk throughout the country have now been screened under this program over the 2-year period July 1, 1972 - June 30, 1974.

Of the children screened in the fourth quarter of FY 1974, 9,400 (11%) were reported as having elevated blood lead levels ($\geq 40 \mu\text{g}/100 \text{ ml}$ whole blood) on initial testing; however, 4,052 of the children with initially elevated blood lead levels were confirmed as having elevated blood lead levels by a repeat test. Thus, 4.5% of the children screened in this quarter had confirmed elevated blood lead levels.

Among the 8 cities which screened the largest number

of children (Chicago, Boston, Detroit, New York, Washington, Philadelphia, New Orleans, and Cleveland) in this quarter, the reported percent yield of children with confirmed elevated blood lead levels varies from 15.6% of those screened in Cleveland to 2.7% in Detroit.

The number of children who received chelation therapy (778) represents 19.2% of those with confirmed elevated blood lead levels in this quarter.

(Reported by the Environmental Health Services Division, Bureau of State Services, CDC.)

Editorial Note

Medical and environmental investigation and follow-up are urgently indicated for children with confirmed blood lead elevation. False-positive test results frequently occur due to contamination of micro specimens, hence the need for a positive confirmatory test before further action is taken on children with initially elevated blood lead levels.

(Continued on page 315)

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**TABLE III. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES
FOR WEEKS ENDING SEPTEMBER 7, 1974 AND SEPTEMBER 8, 1973 (36th WEEK)**

AREA	ASEPTIC MENIN- GITIS	BRUCEL- LOSIS	CHICKEN- POX	DIPHTHERIA	ENCEPHALITIS			HEPATITIS, VIRAL			MALARIA		
					Primary	Arthropod- borne and Unspecified	Post In- fectious	Type B	Type A	Type Unspecified			
					1974	1974	1974	1974	1974	1974	1974	Cum. 1974	
UNITED STATES . . .	69	3	217	2	175	34	44	4	136	575	95	7	146
NEW ENGLAND . . .	9	—	58	—	—	3	7	—	8	45	9	1	7
Maine *	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
New Hampshire *	1	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—
Vermont	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Massachusetts	—	—	40	—	—	2	3	—	5	8	7	—	2
Rhode Island	5	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	—	—	3
Connecticut	—	—	7	—	—	1	2	—	1	16	1	1	2
MIDDLE ATLANTIC . . .	12	—	20	—	1	7	5	2	16	38	10	4	26
Upstate New York	6	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	1	3	9
New York City	1	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	6	8	—	1	10
New Jersey	2	—	NN	—	—	1	1	—	6	12	9	—	3
Pennsylvania	3	—	1	—	1	6	4	2	4	7	—	—	4
EAST NORTH CENTRAL . . .	6	—	54	—	2	6	14	1	23	137	15	—	12
Ohio	—	—	1	—	1	—	10	—	—	19	—	—	5
Indiana *	1	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—
Illinois	1	—	—	—	1	4	1	—	12	35	11	—	2
Michigan	4	—	7	—	—	2	3	1	8	66	4	—	4
Wisconsin	—	—	34	—	—	—	—	—	2	11	—	—	1
WEST NORTH CENTRAL . . .	12	—	20	—	—	1	7	—	16	31	11	—	4
Minnesota	5	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	4	13	1	—	1
Iowa	7	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
Missouri *	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	9	8	10	—	1
North Dakota	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Dakota	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
Nebraska	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Kansas	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—
SOUTH ATLANTIC . . .	10	—	23	—	1	5	3	—	21	121	21	—	21
Delaware	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maryland	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	11	—	—	3
District of Columbia	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Virginia *	3	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	5	6	5	—	6
West Virginia	1	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
North Carolina	—	—	NN	—	1	3	1	—	1	13	—	—	4
South Carolina *	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	7	3	—	—
Georgia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	1
Florida	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	50	12	—	5
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL . . .	6	2	8	—	—	4	—	—	11	63	—	2	6
Kentucky	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	3	27	—	1	4
Tennessee	—	1	NN	—	—	2	—	—	7	21	—	—	1
Alabama *	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
Mississippi	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	—	1	1
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL . . .	6	1	3	—	9	5	3	—	25	71	4	—	10
Arkansas	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	1
Louisiana	—	—	NN	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oklahoma	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	17	16	4	—	3
Texas *	3	1	3	—	9	1	2	—	8	49	—	—	5
MOUNTAIN . . .	2	—	9	2	30	—	—	—	4	31	18	—	7
Montana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
Idaho	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wyoming	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Colorado	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	11	—	5
New Mexico	—	—	8	2	12	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	1
Arizona	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	2	6	7	—	—
Utah	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Nevada	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1
PACIFIC . . .	6	—	22	—	132	3	5	1	12	38	7	—	53
Washington	4	—	—	—	121	3	—	1	3	21	6	—	—
Oregon	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	15	—	—	2
California *	—	—	—	—	7	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	49
Alaska	—	—	6	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Hawaii	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2
Guam *	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Puerto Rico	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	1
Virgin Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Delayed reports: Aseptic meningitis: Texas 5, Guam 1
Chickenpox: Ala. 1, Texas 16, Calif. 5
Hepatitis B: Ind. 1, Texas 6

Hepatitis A: Me. 1, N.H. 2, Ind. delete 4, Va. delete 1
S.C. delete 1, Texas 82, Guam 8
Hepatitis unspecified: Mo. 9, Guam 1

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TABLE III. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES
FOR WEEKS ENDING SEPTEMBER 7, 1974 AND SEPTEMBER 8, 1973 (36th WEEK) — Continued

AREA	MEASLES (Rubeola)			MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS, TOTAL		MUMPS		PERTUSSIS	RUBELLA		TETANUS	
	1974	Cumulative		1974	Cumulative		1974	Cum. 1974	1974	Cum. 1974	Cum. 1974	
		1974	1973		1974	1973						
UNITED STATES . . .	114	19,798	24,143	8	961	1,047	176	44,258	34	108	9,760	60
NEW ENGLAND . . .	3	915	7,350	—	51	46	19	5,868	—	4	964	1
Maine	—	41	64	—	2	1	—	784	—	1	277	—
New Hampshire	—	198	857	—	12	6	—	279	—	—	16	1
Vermont	—	57	118	—	2	3	—	28	—	—	18	—
Massachusetts * . .	3	384	3,905	—	15	12	4	954	—	3	333	—
Rhode Island	—	59	604	—	7	3	14	2,407	—	—	19	—
Connecticut	—	176	1,802	—	13	21	1	1,416	—	—	301	—
MIDDLE ATLANTIC . . .	12	7,988	2,446	—	146	140	7	3,543	2	7	1,055	6
Upstate New York . .	4	932	798	—	55	48	—	861	1	—	237	2
New York City . . .	3	583	894	—	33	29	3	620	1	4	146	1
New Jersey * . . .	2	5,523	407	—	42	33	1	654	—	2	439	2
Pennsylvania *	3	950	347	—	16	30	3	1,408	—	1	233	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL . . .	71	7,656	8,474	1	112	137	64	12,671	15	27	3,202	9
Ohio	16	3,041	281	—	39	54	14	3,120	—	3	494	2
Indiana	3	226	631	—	11	4	2	976	—	6	542	—
Illinois	40	2,012	2,052	—	10	24	8	1,107	6	8	509	3
Michigan	3	1,907	4,358	1	36	40	9	5,390	1	3	1,179	3
Wisconsin	9	470	1,152	—	16	15	31	2,078	8	7	478	1
WEST NORTH CENTRAL . . .	—	685	439	1	72	80	20	2,691	1	2	215	9
Minnesota	—	83	19	1	23	8	—	41	—	—	12	1
Iowa	—	134	277	—	13	19	15	1,632	1	—	15	—
Missouri	—	261	52	—	18	32	2	383	—	1	36	2
North Dakota	—	28	58	—	3	3	—	33	—	—	14	3
South Dakota	—	27	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	25	—
Nebraska	—	2	6	—	3	7	—	81	—	—	6	—
Kansas	—	150	27	—	9	7	3	519	—	1	107	3
SOUTH ATLANTIC	16	533	1,209	5	195	178	18	5,406	7	15	1,145	14
Delaware	—	7	8	—	5	1	—	91	—	—	27	—
Maryland	—	22	12	—	18	23	—	107	—	—	4	—
District of Columbia . .	—	3	5	—	1	4	1	50	—	—	4	—
Virginia	—	34	416	—	30	34	1	565	4	—	41	3
West Virginia . . .	15	191	207	—	7	4	9	2,924	—	15	257	1
North Carolina	—	5	4	1	42	37	NN	NN	3	—	53	3
South Carolina	1	49	59	—	16	12	—	111	—	—	590	1
Georgia	—	4	152	—	8	21	—	1	—	—	2	1
Florida	—	218	346	4	68	42	7	1,557	—	—	167	5
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL . . .	5	214	598	—	98	93	18	5,517	6	13	541	2
Kentucky	4	149	367	—	38	32	1	2,211	—	7	196	—
Tennessee	—	34	165	—	44	39	9	2,427	2	5	269	1
Alabama	1	18	9	—	9	15	7	508	—	1	60	—
Mississippi	—	13	57	—	7	7	1	371	4	—	16	1
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL . . .	4	193	674	1	157	163	11	3,110	2	22	343	7
Arkansas	2	8	69	—	11	13	1	129	—	—	8	—
Louisiana	—	13	84	—	32	37	—	216	—	19	77	3
Oklahoma	—	25	53	—	17	29	—	366	2	—	44	1
Texas *	2	147	468	1	97	84	10	2,399	—	3	214	3
MOUNTAIN	1	735	720	—	30	32	6	1,044	—	4	406	—
Montana	1	373	17	—	1	6	—	172	—	1	66	—
Idaho	—	51	253	—	2	4	1	157	—	—	15	—
Wyoming	—	1	80	—	3	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
Colorado	—	30	105	—	8	11	3	503	—	—	158	—
New Mexico	—	61	117	—	2	3	2	178	—	3	117	—
Arizona	—	15	19	—	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utah	—	5	128	—	6	2	—	20	—	—	17	—
Nevada	—	199	1	—	3	2	—	5	—	—	33	—
PACIFIC	2	879	2,233	—	100	178	13	4,408	1	14	1,889	12
Washington	—	63	1,012	—	11	19	5	1,530	—	8	344	1
Oregon	—	—	456	—	12	12	2	767	1	6	216	1
California	---	753	681	---	71	141	---	1,947	---	---	1,312	10
Alaska	—	—	65	—	3	6	2	104	—	—	—	—
Hawaii	2	63	19	—	3	—	4	60	—	—	17	—
Guam	—	14	49	—	1	—	—	354	—	—	5	—
Puerto Rico	5	579	1,790	—	6	8	21	933	—	—	28	3
Virgin Islands	—	24	1	—	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	1

*Delayed reports: Measles: Mass. delete 4, Pa. delete 2,
Texas 4

Mumps: Texas 18
Rubella: N.J. 1, Texas 6

Meningococcal infection: Texas delete 1

LEAD POISONING – Continued

Table 2
Results of Screening in Childhood Lead Poisoning Control Projects – United States
Fourth Quarter of FY 1974 (April 1, 1974 to June 30, 1974)*

Projects	Number of Children Screened	Number of Screened Children with Initial Blood Lead Level $\geq 40 \mu\text{g}$	Number of Children with Confirmed Blood Lead Level $\geq 40 \mu\text{g}$	Number of Children Chelated
Hartford	693	70	12	1
Boston	8,454	1,516	587	67
Chelsea	467	59	8	1
Somerville	345	32	19	3
Waltham	335	2	1	0
Lowell	1,317	188	188	14
DHEW Region I	11,611	1,867	815	86
Albany Co.	407	24	15	3
Erie Co.	687	110	NA	32
New York City	6,371	NA	NA	NA
Onandago Co.	1,918	78	48	21
Hoboken	266	23	5	5
Newark	3,716	348	NA	21
DHEW Region II	13,365	583	68	82
Allegheny Co.	2,077	26	7	0
Philadelphia	3,382	835	399	29
Baltimore	1,793	319	159	18
Wilmington	902	74	10	0
Washington, D.C.	5,213	812	538	31
Norfolk	801	112	67	7
DHEW Region III	14,168	2,178	1,180	85
Chattanooga	474	39	10	0
Nashville	919	273	84	4
Charleston	333	19	9	6
Greenville	612	89	57	0
Savannah	786	190	23	5
DHEW Region IV	3,124	610	183	15
Cleveland	2,842	705	443	14
Cincinnati	858	179	75	4
Toledo	525	69	68	36
Detroit	7,001	216	190	4
Chicago	15,989	1,368	529	192
Peoria	675	67	55	8
Rockford	847	32	40	0
Springfield	293	52	54	5
Milwaukee	1,210	375	64	140
DHEW Region V	30,240	3,063	1,518	403
New Orleans	3,293	516	234	1
Tulsa	971	77	7	0
Houston	1,149	21	4	0
DHEW Region VI	5,413	614	245	1
Des Moines	974	25	5	8
St. Louis	1,352	345	NA	90
Burlington	160	4	3	0
DHEW Region VII	2,486	374	8	98
Denver	612	59	17	0
DHEW Region VIII	612	59	17	0
Los Angeles Co.	462	22	11	8
Sacramento	448	30	7	0
DHEW Region IX	910	52	18	8
Multnomah Co.	NA	NA	NA	NA
DHEW Region X	NA	NA	NA	NA
United States (Projects)				
Total	81,929	9,400	4,052	778

NA = not available

*Provisional 8/29/74

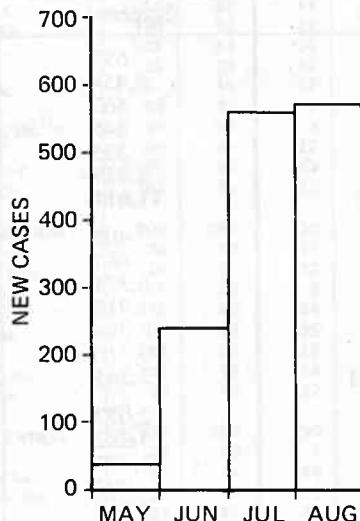
EPIDEMIOLOGIC NOTES AND REPORTS
CHOLERA — Portugal, Spain

As of September 6, 1974, 1,644 cases of cholera (18.97 cases per 100,000) with 29 deaths (case fatality rate 1.76%) had been reported by Portugal since the current outbreak began in late April 1974 (Figure 1). During this epidemic cases have been reported from 16 of Portugal's 18 continental districts — most from Porto, Faro, Lisboa, Setubal, Portalegre, and Beja. Districts reporting cholera for the first time this past week were Braganca, in continental Portugal, and Funchal, the district of Madeira Island.

On August 28, 1974, the World Health Organization reported 2 cases of cholera in the Lepe area of Huelva province, Spain. These are the first reported cases of cholera in Spain since 1971. The strain isolated, *Vibrio cholerae*, biotype El Tor, serotype Inaba, is the same as that currently involved in the cholera epidemic in Portugal. Huelva province, Spain, borders Faro district, Portugal, and Lepe is approximately 15 miles from the Portuguese border. At this time, however, Spain is not considered to be a cholera-infected area.

(Reported by the World Health Organization: Epidemiological Bulletin, No. 1, 9 Sept 1974, and Weekly Epidemiological Record 49:298, 30 Aug 1974; and the Enteric Diseases Branch, Bacterial Diseases Division, Bureau of Epidemiology, CDC.)

Figure 1
**NEW CASES OF CHOLERA BY MONTH OF ONSET,
PORTUGAL, MAY 1 – AUGUST 29, 1974**



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The data in this report are provisional, based on weekly telegraphs to CDC by state health departments. The reporting week concludes at close of business on Friday; compiled data on a national basis are officially released to the public on the succeeding Friday.

In addition to the established procedures for reporting morbidity and mortality, the editor welcomes accounts of interesting cases, outbreaks, environmental hazards, or other public health problems of current interest to health officials.

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